

## OBITUARY

### MRS. ELIZABETH WOODS

The death of Mrs. Elizabeth Woods, aged 87 years, occurred at her late residence, 28 York Street, Fairfield, on Tuesday, February 12, after a short illness. She had traveled to Victoria with her husband, Mr. J. J. Woods, the week previously.

The deceased lady had lived over 53 years in Fairfield, and with her large family had been closely associated with its progress for that period.

Mr. and Mrs. Woods were married at Darlington 56 years ago. After living a few years at Balmmain and at Liverpool, they came to Fairfield to make their living and rear their family. Firstly they resided in The Crescent, where Mr. Woods conducted the first picture show in the town in the premises where Nash's drapery store now stands. Of course, the population was small in those days and Mr. Woods operated a carrying business to advance himself. At one time he had 40 horses used in that undertaking. Later he leased his stables and sold most of his horses to Mr. Sindel, who plied a horse-drawn bus between Fairfield and Fairfield West.

The pictures were in their infancy in those early days, and broke down practically every night. Mrs. Woods acted as door-keeper—a fact not forgotten by the kiddies of the village, for the kind-hearted lady often passed the youngsters in for nothing.

Twenty-five years ago Mr. and Mrs. Woods moved to York Street where he continued with his contract carrying. He was the first carrier in these parts to use a motor driven waggon, which had solid rubber tyres and the crank handle at the side. Later in life, when their three sons became associated with the business, it grew visibly and is now one of the busiest in the metropolitan area.

Although Mr. and Mrs. Woods were both born in Northern Ireland, they did not meet until by chance in Sussex Street, Sydney.

Both were staunch adherents to the Church of England, and were associated for many years with the Loyal Orange Lodge.

Mr. J. J. Woods was, and still is, one of its leading officers. At one period he was Grand Master of the L.O.L. in Australia. As one of its leaders he had visited practically every part of N.S.W. and many parts of Victoria and Queensland.

To Mr. Jack Woods and his family we extend deepest sympathy in the passing of such a devoted wife and mother. Members of the family are: Violet

(Mrs. Osborne, York St.), Anne (Mrs. Glan Martyn, Guildford), Isobel (Mrs. W. Slender, Campbelltown), Eva (Mrs. W. Moore, Camden St., Fairfield), Lillian (Mrs. Windsor, Strathfield), Dorothy (Mrs. Goodacre, Station St., Fairfield), Max (Hurstville), Dave (York St., Fairfield), Bill (Ware Street, Fairfield). There are 19 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

### THE SERVICE AND FUNERAL

So large was the attendance at St. Barnabas' Church of England, Fairfield, where the service was conducted by Rev. H. Henningham, that many could not gain admittance.

The Rector delivered a most eloquent oration, extolling the fine Christian character and noble attributes of the late Mrs. Woods. His sincere references to the deceased lady's kindly and charitable disposition, and helpful attitude towards people when occasion arose, must have been very comforting to the bereaved members of this highly respected family.

Members of the L.O.L. Order formed up at the church entrance prior to the service, and afterwards members of the choir also paid this tribute of respect. The choir, in excellent harmony, led the singing of the hymns. The Rector read the L.O.L. funeral oration. Grand Lodge was represented by D.G.B. Bro. G. Hill and 20 District by Secretary Bro. A. Richardson, and W.M. of Lodge

Fairfield Bro. J. Bell, and a large number of members.

All sections of the community—business citizens and organisations—were well represented at the service and funeral, and many old friends met for the first time in years, joining in silent but eloquent testimony to the very high esteem and affection in which the late Mrs. Woods and her family are held.

The funeral moved off for Rookwood Crematorium, comprising dozens of cars, the hearse being loaded with beautiful floral tributes, which had filled a large area around the coffin in the church. These added further proof that numerous friends and relatives had added their thoughts for the sad occasion.

At the graveside D.G.M. G. Hill, of the L.O.L. delivered the funeral service.